Persons represented

Duke of Venice
Prince of Morocco } Suitors to Portia
Prince of Aragon }
Antonio The Merchant of Venice
Bassanio his friend
Salanio }
Salarino } friends to Antonio and Bassanio
Gratiano }
Lorenzo in Love with Jessica
Shylock a Jew
Tubal a Jew his friend
Launcelot Gobbo ~~father to~~ a Cloan Servant to Shylock
Old Gobbo father to Lancelot
* Salerio a Messenger from Venice
Leonardo servant to Bassanio
Balthazar } Servants to Portia.
Stephano }

Portia. a rich heiress
Nerissa her waiting Maid
Jessica Daughter to Shylock.

* This character is wrtten in the Per. Dram. the name appears in the first folio.

The comicall History of the Merchant of Venice.

Enter *Anthonio, Salaryno,* and *Salanio.*

An. IN sooth I know not why I am so sad,
It wearies me, you say it wearies you;
But how I caught it, found it, or came by it,
What stuffe tis made of, whereof it is borne, *off* *of*
I am to learne: and such a want-wit sadnes
makes of mee,
That I haue much adoe to know my selfe.
Salarino. Your minde is tossing on the Ocean,
There where your Argosies with portlie sayle,
Like Signiors and rich Burgars on the flood,
Or as it were the Pageants of the sea,
Doe ouer-peere the petty traffiquers
That curtsie to them, do them reuerence
As they flie by them with theyr wouen wings.
Salanio. Beleeue mee sir, had I such venture forth,
The better part of my affections would
Be with my hopes abroade. I should be still
Plucking the grasse, to know where sits the wind,
Piring in Maps, for ports, and peers and rodes: *Piering* *for*
And euery obiect that might make me feare
Mis-fortune to my ventures, out of doubt
Would make me sad.
Salar. My wind cooling my broth,
vvould blow me to an ague, when I thought
vvhat harme a winde too great might doe at sea. *at Sea, might do.* *1st Folio. might do at Sea*
I should not see the sandie howre-glasse runne,
But I should thinke of shallowes, and of flatts,
And see my wealthy *Andrew* docks in sand,

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *Merchant of Venice* (STC 22296) LONDON, 1600 NATIONAL LIBRARY OF SCOTLAND (Bute.494) Octavo